

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NOMINEES FOR COURT OF APPEALS ANNOUNCED

The Commission on Appellate Court Appointments has recommended five candidates to Governor Janet Napolitano for a vacancy on Division I of the Arizona Court of Appeals, created by the recent retirement of Judge Jefferson Lankford.

The nominees are **Mark F. Aceto**, 50, Republican, of Tempe, a Superior Court judge in Maricopa County; **Paula S. Bickett**, 52, Democrat, of Phoenix, Chief Counsel of the Civil Appeals Section of the Arizona Attorney General's Office; **Margaret H. Downie**, 47, Democrat, of Phoenix, a Superior Court judge in Maricopa County; **Randall M. Howe**, 43, Republican, of Phoenix, Chief Counsel of the Criminal Appeals Section of the Arizona Attorney General's Office; and **Diane M. Johnsen**, 52, Democrat, of Scottsdale, a partner in the Osborn Maledon law firm. Their applications for the office can be viewed online at www.supreme.state.az.us/hr/judicialvacancies.htm

Governor Napolitano will appoint the new judge.